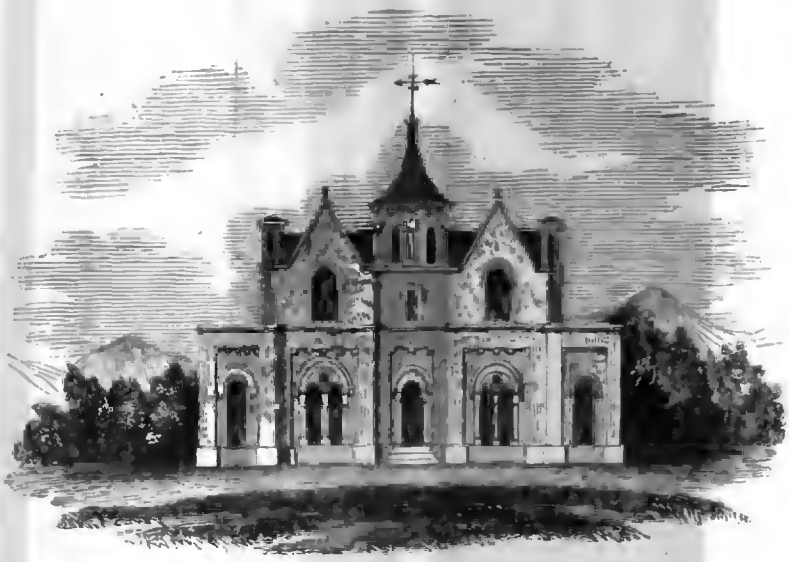
THE MONUMENT.

This column is of the Doric order, and rises from the pavement to the height of two hundred and two feet, containing within its shaft a spiral stair of black marble of three hundred and forty-five steps. The plinth is twenty-one feet square, and ornamented with sculpture by Cibber, representing the flames subsiding on the appearance of King Charles. The shaft, deeply fluted, measures fifteen feet in diameter at the base, and diminishing according to the proportion of its order, terminates in a capital, crowned with a balcony, from the centre of which rises a circular pedistal, bearing a flaming urn of gilt bronze.

The various notions of Sir Christopher Wren, the architect, concerning a suitable termination, are worth recording: "I cannot," said he, "but recommend a large statue as carrying much dignity with it, and that which would be more valuable in the eyes of foreigners and strangers. It hath been proposed to cast such a one in brass of twelve feet high for a thousand pounds. I hope we may find those who will cast a figure for that money of fifteen feet high, which will suit the greatness of the pillar, and is, as I take it, the largest at this day extant. This would undoubtedly be the noblest finishing that can be found answerable to so goodly a work in all men's judgments."

The king, however, preferred a large ball of metal gilt. A phœnix was introduced in the wooden model of the pillar, but afterwards rejected by the architect himself, "because it would be costly, not easily understood at that height, and worse understood at a distance and lastly dangerous, by reason of the sail the spread wings would carry in the wind." A statue of Charles fifteen feet high, on a pedestal of two hundred, would have looked small and mean; the king resisted the compliment.

This work, begun in the year 1671, was not completed till 1677; stone was scarce, and the restoration of London and its cathedral swallowed up the produce of the quarries. "It was at first used," says Elmes, "by the members of the Royal Society for astronomical experiments, but was abandoned on account of its vibrations being too great for the nicety required in their observations. This occasioned a report that it was unsafe, but its scientific construction may bid defiance to the attacks of all but earthquakes for centuries."



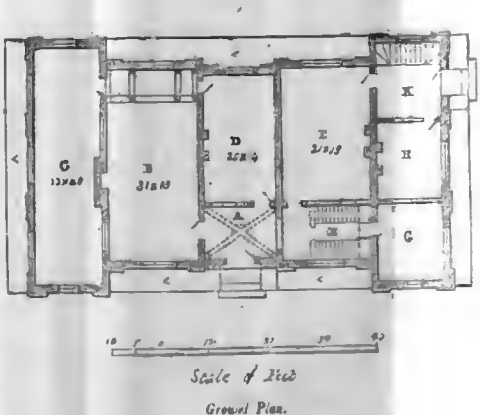
DESIGN FOR A NORMAN COTTAGE.

Description.

Ground Story.—A, hall. B, drawing-room; at the end is an arched recess, having on each side a lobby, one leading into the conservatory (C), and the other into the parlour (D); there is also a window on each side of the fire-place looking into the conservatory, which would have a pleasant and cheerful effect. E, principal staircase, with water-closet under part, and steps to the offices in the basement story. F, dining-room, with doorway to back entrance, and staircase to kitchen, for the purpose of serving the dinner quickly. G, study. H, bed-room for man-servant, with doorway to back entrance (K), which would be a protection to same in the night-time. <, areas to admit light to the basement.

On the one-pair would be five or six bed-rooms and water-closet, and one bed-room in the tower, making in all seven or eight, with the one on the ground story. In the basement story are the domestic offices.

B.



Scale of Feet

Ground Plan.